

THE COUNTY BULLETIN

And Uniform Compliance Guidelines

ISSUED BY STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

Vol. No. 410

July 2018

SPECIAL EDITION

NEW LAWS AFFECTING VARIOUS COUNTY OFFICES

The following is a digest of some of the laws passed in the 2018 Session of the General Assembly affecting various offices in county government. Some of the laws do not pertain directly to a particular county office, but are included in this digest for ready reference to the covered subject matter.

The digest is not intended as an expression of legal interpretations, nor is the digest intended to be all inclusive. Reference in the digest will be to the Indiana Code in the following form (Amends IC 33-17-10-5) which means (Amends Indiana Code, Title 33, Article 17, Chapter 10, Section 5). Please note the effective date of each law.

Additional information regarding the 2018 public laws may be found on the General Assembly website at www.iga.in.gov. The "Session" tab contains a Table of Citations for all Indiana Code citations affected by the new legislation, a complete Digest of Enactments summarizing each new public law, an Enrolled Act Summary showing the effective dates of each public law section, and other cross references between public law number and bill number. The "Legislation" tab contains each new public law.

PUBLIC LAW 3-2018 – SENATE ENROLLED ACT – 9 – EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019

RESIDENTS OF INDIVIDUALS IN STATE INSTITUTION – Amends IC 3-5-5-17 - Provides that an individual committed to an institution for individuals with a mental illness may state either of the following, but not both, as the individual's residence for purposes of voting: (1) The address of the institution where the individual has been committed. (2) The address where the individual lives when the individual is not committed to an institution. (Under current law, such an individual does not gain residency in the precinct in which the institution to which the individual is committed is located.)

PUBLIC LAW 11- 2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 182 – EFFECTIVE MARCH 7, 2018

COUNTY BUILDING AUTHORITIES – Amends IC 36-9-13-6.5 - Authorizes the municipal county seat of a county building authority to withdraw its membership from the building authority. Provides that in the case of a withdrawal, the county fiscal body appoints the trustee formerly appointed by the municipal fiscal body, and the county executive appoints the trustee formerly appointed by the municipal executive. Provides that if the building authority has any bonds or other obligations outstanding, a municipality may not withdraw from the building authority if the withdrawal will impair the ability of the building authority to pay the bonds or other obligations.

PUBLIC LAW 24 - 2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1057 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018-PRETRIAL DIVERSION

– Amends IC 33-37-4-1; IC 33-37-5-17 - Provides that the initial user fee amount for a diversion agreement involving a misdemeanor is \$50. Provides that the initial user fee amount for a diversion agreement involving a felony is \$75. Allows a court to impose on a person an additional program fee or cost that is reasonably related to the person's rehabilitation. Prohibits a monthly user fee from being collected beyond the maximum length of a possible sentence. Makes conforming amendments.

PUBLIC LAW 25 - 2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1073 –EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – CHILD CARE LOCATION AND SAFETY – Amends IC 12-17.2-3.5-5- Includes other weapons among the items that must be inaccessible to children in the care of certain child care providers, and amends accordingly the child care law concerning the list of imminent threats to children. Allows the division of family resources to waive the one year period after revocation during which a person may not apply for or be granted another license. Requires a child care provider to provide documentation from the county, city, or town that: (1) the child care provider meets all requirements of any applicable local ordinances; or (2) a business permit or license is not required by a local ordinance.

PUBLIC LAW 27-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1095 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 ELECTRONIC TITLES – Amends IC 9-14-12-2; IC 9-17-2-4; IC 9-17-2-14.5; 9-17-3; IC 9-17-5; 9-22-3; IC 9-23; - Defines "certificate of title" as a record that: (1) contains evidence of vehicle ownership; (2) contains information related to the vehicle as required under the law governing certificates of title; and (3) can be issued either in a physical document or an electronic document. Defines "transferring party" as a person that: (1) is listed on the certificate of title as an owner of the vehicle; or (2) is acting as an agent of the owner and holds power of attorney for the owner of the vehicle. Requires a person who has a lien or encumbrance that is notated on an electronic title to notify the bureau of motor vehicles (BMV) and the person listed on the certificate of title as the owner or the person acting as the owner's power of attorney that the lien or encumbrance has been satisfied or discharged. Requires the BMV to enter a notation recording the satisfaction or discharge of a lien or encumbrance when the BMV receives a notification from the lien holder for electronic titles. Moves the definition of "third party" from a chapter in which the term is not used to the chapter governing obtaining, expiration, replacement, and transfer of certificates of title. Makes conforming changes.

PUBLIC LAW 40-2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1303 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 ELECTRONIC POWERS OF ATTORNEY, TRUSTS AND WILLS – Amends IC 29-1-21; IC 30-4-1.5; IC 30-5-11 - Allows a testator to execute an electronic will. Specifies requirements pertaining to the: (1) creation; (2) attestation; and (3) execution; of an electronic will. Allows video recordings of an electronic will's execution to be used for demonstrating: (1) proper execution of a will; (2) testator intent; (3) the mental state of a testator; (4) the absence of undue influence or duress with respect to a testator; and (5) verification of the individual identities involved in the execution of an electronic will. Provides exemplar instructions and advisory language to testators with respect to electronic wills. Specifies how to revoke an electronic will. Allows certain electronic records to be used in place of an electronic will. Specifies how to transfer possession of an electronic will from the current custodian to a successor custodian. Specifies the responsibilities of an electronic will custodian. Specifies how to amend, destroy, and revoke an electronic will. Creates a presumption of regularity for electronic wills. Allows electronic wills to be deposited with the clerk of a probate court in certain instances. Explains the probate process for electronic wills. Allows a settlor to create and execute an electronic trust instrument. Specifies how to create and execute an electronic trust instrument. Specifies how to amend or revoke an electronic trust instrument. Specifies who may act as a custodian for an electronic trust instrument. Specifies how an electronic trust instrument may be delivered or transferred. Specifies how to destroy an electronic trust instrument. Creates a presumption of regularity with respect to electronic trust instruments. Allows a person to create and execute an electronic power of attorney. Specifies how to execute a valid electronic power of attorney. Specifies how to amend or revoke an electronic power of attorney. Specifies who may act as a custodian for an electronic power of attorney. Specifies how to destroy an electronic power of attorney. Creates a presumption of regularity with respect to electronic powers of attorney. Defines certain terms. Makes conforming amendments.

PUBLIC LAW 42-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1412 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 LIBRARIES – Amends IC 36-12-2-5 - Reorganizes and makes changes to provisions concerning the petition and remonstrance process for units that seek to: (1) establish a public library; (2) expand a public library into not more than one township or part of a township; or (3) expand a public library into more than one township or parts of more than one township. Requires certain language to appear where signatures are affixed to a petition or a remonstrance for the: (1) establishment of a public library; or (2) expansion of a public library. Makes various changes to the law regarding the leasing of library property. Makes technical corrections and conforming changes.

PUBLIC LAW 47-2018 – SENATE ENROLLED ACT 99 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018

CIVIL FORFEITURE ACT - Amends IC 34-24-1 - Requires the prosecuting attorney to file an affidavit of probable cause with a court not later than seven days after property is seized, and provides for the return of the property to the owner if the court does not find probable cause. Establishes a procedure for an owner of real property or of a vehicle (if the owner was not operating the vehicle at the time of the seizure) to obtain provisional custody of the seized property pending a final forfeiture determination. Makes the time limit for filing a forfeiture action: (1) 21 days, if the owner has filed a written demand for return of the property; or (2) 90 days, if the owner has not filed a written demand for return of the property. Provides that an owner whose property is returned is not liable for the costs of storage, transportation, or maintenance. Specifies how the proceeds of a forfeiture action are to be distributed. Requires a prosecuting attorney to report certain information concerning forfeitures to the prosecuting attorneys council. Imposes certain requirements on the use and compensation of outside counsel in forfeiture actions, and prohibits a prosecuting attorney or deputy prosecuting attorney from receiving a contingency fee for a forfeiture action. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the interim study committee on courts and the judiciary.)

PUBLIC LAW 59-2018 – SENATE ENROLLED ACT 372 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018

NOTARIAL ACTS – Amends IC 33-42 – Makes technical changes to standardize language concerning registration of trademarks and regulation related to notarial acts. Specifies requirements related to notarial acts, including use of electronic documentation and technology for electronic notarial acts. Requires the secretary of state to adopt rules related to electronic notarial acts and remote notarial acts. Specifies requirements for remote notarial acts, including: (1) registration of a remote notary public; (2) certification of and record keeping related to remote notarial acts; (3) use of audio visual communication and recording; (4) verification of credentials; and (5) maintenance of records. Makes conforming amendments.

PUBLIC LAW 61-2018 – SENATE ENROLLED ACT 386 – EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2018

FINANCING OF FLOOD CONTROL IMPROVEMENTS – Amends IC 36-7-15.6 Authorizes the Indianapolis metropolitan development commission (commission), following a written recommendation from the board of public works and approval of the legislative body, to adopt an ordinance designating an area as a flood control improvement district (district) to capture incremental property tax revenue within the district to be used for the construction, replacement, repair, maintenance, or improvement of flood control works. Provides that only special flood hazard property may be included within the boundaries of a district. Defines "special flood hazard property" as property that on January 1, 2018, is situated in a special flood hazard area as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Provides that a district may not include any property that is already included in a tax increment financing allocation area. Provides that, before making a recommendation to the commission to establish a district, a board of public works must: (1) establish the boundaries for the district; (2) identify the owners of each parcel of property in the district; (3) create a proposed plan for flood control works within the district; and (4) hold a public hearing on the proposed district. Provides that the fiscal officer of the county shall establish a flood control improvement fund (fund) for each district that is established within the county. Provides that the commission shall administer the fund. Provides that the incremental property tax revenue from a district shall be deposited in the fund and used only for providing flood control works within the boundaries of that district. Provides that the commission may issue bonds payable from the fund for the purpose of construction, replacement, repair, maintenance, or improvement of flood control works. Specifies the types of costs for flood control works that may be funded from a bond issue including reimbursement to the county for expenditures made from the county's storm water fund for flood control works prior to the bond issuance. Provides that, in lieu of issuing bonds, the fiscal body of the county may adopt an ordinance to authorize money in a fund of a district to be applied to reimburse debt service payments made on bonds for which revenue from the county's storm water fund is pledged, if the bonds for which the reimbursements are made were issued solely for the purpose of construction, replacement, repair, maintenance, or improvement of flood control works that are located within the district for which the fund was established. Allows the county to adopt an ordinance to continue distribution and allocation of property taxes after bond maturity, solely for the purpose of maintenance and repair of flood control works within the district for not more than 50 years. Requires a commission to make an annual report to the fiscal body of the county and submit a copy of the report to the department of local government finance.

PUBLIC LAW 65-2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1006 – EFFECTIVE MARCH 13, 2018 - BROADENING CRIMINAL JUSTICE TREATMENT OPTIONS. Amends IC 5-2-6-24; IC 11-21-2; IC 33-38-9.5-2 - Makes various changes to the criminal justice institute's annual report on the impact of criminal code reform on local units of government, the department of correction, and the office of judicial administration. Requires the report to be prepared in conjunction with the justice reinvestment advisory council (council). Adds probation departments, pretrial diversion programs, and jail treatment programs to programs that are eligible to apply for a state grant for community corrections. Replaces the Indiana judicial center with the office of judicial administration for purposes of: (1) submitting the community supervision collaboration plan; (2) approval of the commissioner of the department of correction providing additional financial aid to counties with a community supervision collaboration plan; and (3) duties with the council. Allows the division of mental health and addiction (division) to establish a pilot program, subject to available funding and on the recommendation of the council, to provide mental health and addiction forensic treatment services to individuals who are charged with a misdemeanor and meet certain eligibility criteria. Provides that if the pilot program is established, the division shall issue annual reports. Removes an expired provision

PUBLIC LAW 72-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 1004 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 VARIOUS STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT STREAMLINING MATTERS— Amends numerous sections in IC 2-5-1.1-6.5; IC 2-6-1.5, IC 4-13-18-4; IC 32-30-11-1; IC 36-1-12-5 - Provides that the journals, the enrolled acts, the session laws, and the Indiana Code may be distributed in paper or electronic format. Requires that copies of the journals, the session laws, and the Indiana Code must be provided to public libraries located in Indiana that participate in the federal depository library program. Permits the clerk of the house of representatives and the secretary of the senate (with respect to the journals) and the legislative council (with respect to the session laws and the Indiana Code) to specify a list of other public officials who automatically receive copies of the journals, the session laws, and the Indiana Code. Permits the publication and circulation to circuit court clerks of the enrolled acts, as required by the state constitution, to be performed electronically, and permits circuit court clerks to electronically acknowledge receipt of the enrolled acts directly to the legislative services agency. Permits the implementation of a system that would allow county clerks to send the acknowledgment electronically. Requires a meeting for receiving quotes must be open to the public. Provides that certain quotes shall be reported to the board during the public meeting at which the contract is considered. Specifies that an employee drug testing program must have been effective and applied at the time of the solicitation for bids for a public works project. Allows the board to keep on file a copy of the contractor's policy submitted in the current calendar year or previous two calendar years to satisfy the requirement for submitting a policy unless the policy has been revised. Specifies that the fire and building safety commission (commission) shall include citations to specific provisions of state law regarding the fire safety laws and the building laws that are the basis for a denial of an ordinance or other regulation of a political subdivision that is submitted for approval by the commission. Provides that a person may electronically file any document that is required to be filed as part of a lis pendens record. Repeals a provision requiring a circuit court clerk to provide to a court the names of all attorneys having business in that court. Makes changes concerning the role of a circuit court clerk regarding recovery of treatment and maintenance charges from the estate of a patient of a state institution or from a responsible party. Provides that: (1) the secretary and treasurer shall make a report of their trusts to the local board of the 1925 police pension fund (fund) before February 15; and (2) after the local board receives the report of the secretary and treasurer, the trustees of the local board shall be elected at the next meeting of the members of the police department. Removes a prohibition on political affiliation for members of a park board in a third class city. Urges the legislative council to assign to an appropriate interim study committee the subject of costs and benefits related to publication of certain reports.

Public Law 73-2018 – House Enrolled Act 1035 – SHORT TERM RENTALS - Amends IC 36-1-24 - Provides the following with regard to short term rentals that are rented through a short term rental platform: (1) provides that a short term rental of an owner's primary residence is a permitted residential use under any applicable ordinance and may not be disallowed. (2) Provides that, in the case of residential property that is not the person's primary residence, a local unit of government (local unit): (A) may require a special exception, special use, or zoning variance for the short term rental of the property; and (B) may not interpret and enforce zoning regulations for a special exception, special use, or zoning variance in a manner that is intended or has the effect of prohibiting or unreasonably restricting all short term rentals of the property. (3) Allows a local unit to regulate short term rental of residential property only for specified purposes. (4) Allows a local unit to require an owner to obtain one permit for each property of an owner, regardless of the number of dwelling units or detached accessory structures on the property that the owner offers as a short term rental. (5) Allows a local unit to charge a fee of not more than \$150 for an initial permit and for a permit issued after the revocation of a permit, but prohibits a unit from charging a fee for a permit renewal. (6) Allows a local unit to limit or prohibit short term rentals located within a conservancy district. Exempts ordinances adopted before January 1, 2018. Excludes property owners associations from the provisions of the bill.

PUBLIC LAW 75-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1140 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 - Interlocal Agreement - Amends IC 32-2-7-1 - Allows a county to enter into an interlocal agreement with a municipality to use: (1) a municipal ordinance violations bureau; or (2) a city or town court; to dispose of county ordinance violations.

PUBLIC LAW 76-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1141 – EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019 COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER FUNDING - Amends IC 12-9-2-1; IC 12-29-2 - Community mental health center funding. Specifies the funding amounts that must be provided by counties to community mental health centers. Provides that a county's maximum funding amount for a year is equal to the maximum funding amount for the previous year multiplied by the percentage change in the county's general fund property tax levy, after subtracting circuit breaker credits (but provides that the maximum funding amount will not be less than the preceding year's maximum funding amount). Phases-in this change in the case of Marion County. Requires the department of local government finance (DLGF) to verify the maximum appropriation calculation as part of the DLGF's certification of the county's budget. Specifies that the funding provided by a county to community mental health centers shall be used solely for: (1) the operations of community mental health centers serving the county; or (2) contributing to the nonfederal share of medical assistance payments to community mental health centers serving the county. Provides that unless otherwise agreed to by the county and the community mental health center, the county payment to the community mental health center shall be paid by the county treasurer to the treasurer of the community mental health center's board of directors at least as frequently as semiannually (in July and in December). Provides that a county's funding for community mental health centers shall be apportioned according to the proportion of: (1) the county's population residing in the primary service area of each center that is certified by the division of mental health and addiction; to (2) the total population of the county. Deletes provisions requiring the county to pay the appropriated amounts to the division of mental health and addiction (the division). Deletes the provisions specifying how the payments to the division must be made. Repeals a provision allowing the appropriation of an additional amount under certain circumstances. Provides that the governing board of a community mental health center must include a member of a county fiscal body or a member of a board of county commissioners, appointed by the board of county commissioners of the county where the community mental health center maintains its corporate mailing address. Requires the annual report by a community mental health center to be made to the division of mental health and addiction (division) and to the fiscal body and the board of county commissioners of each county located in the community mental health center's primary service area. (Under current law the report is made only to the county fiscal body.) Specifies certain information that must be included in the annual reports provided by community mental health centers. Requires the division to specify the format of the annual reports that must be provided by community mental health centers. Requires the division to provide an annual report containing certain information to the county fiscal body and board of county commissioners of each county.

PUBLIC LAW 78-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1173 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 TRIAL RECORDS - Amends IC 35-40-5-8.5 - Permits a victim (or the spouse or an immediate family member of a deceased victim) to obtain, free of charge, an electronic copy of the transcript of criminal proceedings in the victim's case. Requires a prosecuting attorney or victim assistance program to assist the victim, spouse, or immediate family member in obtaining the transcript.

PUBLIC LAW 98-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 281 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT RETIREMENT PLANS - Amends IC 36-8-10-12.6 - Provides that certain sheriffs and county police officers are granted service credit in their respective county sheriff's department retirement plans for service to those county sheriff's departments before the effective dates of the county sheriff's department retirement plans. Provides that certain sheriffs and county police officers simultaneously waive their accrued service credit in the public employees' retirement fund for their service to those county sheriff's departments before the effective dates of the county sheriff's department retirement plans.

PUBLIC LAW 99-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 296 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018

ORDER TO REPAIR TAX SALE PROPERTY - Amends IC 6-1.1-23.9; IC 6-1.1-24-1.5; IC 6-1.1-24.5-1 - Provides that an order for necessary repairs originally issued by an enforcement authority under the unsafe building law to the owner of a vacant or abandoned property that is later sold at a tax sale may subsequently be enforced against the successful bidder 100at the tax sale. Organizes several tax sale definitions.

PUBLIC LAW 100-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 327 – EFFECTIVE MARCH 5, 2018

ELECTION SECURITY; ABSENTEE VOTE COUNTING - Amends IC 3-6-3.7-58; IC 3-11-4-18; IC 3-11-7-20; IC 3-11-7.5-24; IC 3-11-13-11; IC 3-11-14.5-1; IC 3-11-15-20; IC 3-11-15-46; IC 3-11-15-59; IC 3-11-15-60; IC 3-11-16-4; IC 3-11-16-5; IC 3-11-17-7; IC 3-11-18.1-12; IC 3-11.5-4-11; 3-11.5-4-12; IC 3-11.5-6-3; IC 3-11.5-6-4; IC 3-11.5-6-5; IC 3-11.5-9-21- Makes the following changes concerning election security: (1) Permits a county election board (board) to apply to the secretary of state (secretary) for reimbursement of expenditures made by the county to secure and monitor facilities where voting systems and electronic poll books are stored. Provides that, if the secretary, with the consent of the election division (division), approves the application, the county may be reimbursed for all or part of the expenditures. (2) Allows each absentee ballot to be assigned a unique tracking number using IMb Tracing or a similar automated tracking method to provide real-time tracking information for the ballot envelope. (3) Provides that the board is responsible for the security of ballot card voting systems, direct record electronic voting systems, and electronic poll books when they are not in use. (4) Provides that the required public tests for ballot card and direct record electronic voting systems must include testing to ascertain whether votes for straight party tickets and write-in candidates will be tabulated correctly. (5) Updates a reference to current federal standards regarding the "error rate" requirements for voting systems certified for use in elections. (6) Requires that each voting system be sealed with a uniquely numbered seal following each election for post-election auditing purposes. Specifies when voting systems and electronic poll books must be sealed and when they may be unsealed. (7) Authorizes a county election board to adopt, by a unanimous vote of the board's entire membership, a resolution to establish a security protocol that includes an audit trail to detect unauthorized access to secure the voting systems and electronic poll books used in each election conducted in the county. Requires that the person or entity conducting the voting system technical oversight program and the election division be available to advise the board in the development of a security protocol. Provides that if a county election board adopts a security protocol, those protocols supersede the statutory protocols. (8) Provides that, whenever a county disposes of a voting system or electronic poll book, the board shall file a plan with the division documenting the disposal and obtain the approval of the division before disposing of the equipment. (9) Allows a vendor to sell, lease, or transfer an Indiana certified voting system or electronic poll book to: (A) an Indiana county; (B) the voter system technical oversight program (VSTOP); (C) a state or local government in the United States for the purpose of conducting elections in that jurisdiction; or (D) a political party in Indiana entitled to nominate candidates at a state or town convention for the limited purpose of conducting the nomination of candidates. (10) Requires that the administrator of the VSTOP maintain an inventory listing all voting systems and electronic poll books used in conducting elections in Indiana, including a unique serial number for each unit and the present location where each unit is ordinarily stored. Requires that boards regularly update the inventory listing maintained by VSTOP. (11) Requires that the VSTOP conduct random audits of electronic poll books and report whether the electronic poll books have been certified, programmed, and used in compliance with Indiana law. (12) Requires a board to report to the secretary not later than 48 hours after receiving notice from a federal, state, or local government agency that: (A) a voting system or electronic poll book has been improperly obtained or altered; or (B) the data concerning the county maintained in the statewide voter registration system has been accessed or altered by a person; in violation of Indiana law. (13) Provides that electronic poll book data must be retained on a server approved (rather than maintained) by a board. (14) Permits a vendor who has applied for certification of an electronic poll book, but has not yet received approval of the application, to market the electronic poll book at certain county and state meetings of election officials after providing notice to the division.

PUBLIC LAW 100 – 2018 (CONTINUED)

Requires the vendor to display information concerning the poll book's certification status at the meeting (15) Requires absentee ballot counters at a central counting location in a county having a consolidated city that uses electronic poll books or that is a vote center county, at any time after 6 a.m. on election day and after the absentee ballots are processed and the electronic poll books updated, to count the absentee ballots. Allows any other county to use this procedure if the board unanimously adopts a resolution to do so. (16) Allows the signature review process to be conducted any time after an absentee ballot is received in a county having a consolidated city or in any other county in which the board unanimously adopts a resolution to do so. Allows, but does not require, absentee ballot counters at a central location in those counties to make findings concerning an absentee voter's signature and that the voter is a qualified voter of the precinct for an absentee ballot cast in person. (17) Requires absentee ballot counters at a central location in a county having a consolidated city to continue to count without interruption until all absentee ballots that are not required to be remade and have been accepted by the counters are canvassed and the certificates of vote count are prepared and delivered. (18) Allows absentee ballots counted at a central location in a county having a consolidated city to be stored in the order in which the absentee ballots were counted and not in order by precinct. (19) Removes an obsolete reference. (20) Makes a technical correction.

PUBLIC LAW 102-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 349 – EFFECTIVE MARCH 15, 2018

STUDY OF TAXES ON SHORT TERM RENTALS - Urges the legislative council to assign to the appropriate interim study committee the task of studying the following: (1) The issue of which entities are required to collect sales tax on short term rentals. (2) The issue of whether local units can impose a local innkeeper's tax on short term rentals. Urges the legislative council to assign the topic of collecting and remitting state taxes in the peer-to-peer sharing economy.

PUBLIC LAW 104-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 393 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018

SAFETY NOTICE OF ADVANCED STRUCTURAL BUILDINGS - Amends IC 22-11-21; IC 22-13-2-2; IC 22-13-2-2.5 - Requires an individual applying for a building permit issued by a city, town, or county for a Class 1 or Class 2 structure after June 30, 2018, to disclose the use of advanced structural components on the building permit application. Requires the city, town, or county building commissioner to notify the local fire department and local 911 call center of a Class 1 or Class 2 structure's use of advanced structural components not later than 90 days after issuing a building permit. Directs a 911 telephone call center to maintain and relay information contained in a qualifying property's notification and received by the 911 telephone call center. Prohibits the fire prevention and building safety commission (commission) or a state agency from adopting rules requiring the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system. Prohibits a political subdivision from adopting an ordinance or other regulation requiring the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system. Requires that the commission adopt rules to replace the current statewide residential code before January 1, 2020. Provides that if the commission uses a national code as part of the adoption of the statewide residential code, the commission shall amend the national code as a condition of the adoption of the code. Requires the commission to submit a report to the general assembly by January 1, 2019 regarding the commission's work related to the adoption of a replacement statewide residential code.

PUBLIC LAW 109-2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1027 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 RIVERBOAT ADMISSIONS AND SUPPLEMENTAL WAGERING TAX DISTRIBUTIONS

– Amends IC 4-33-12-6; IC 4-33-12-8; IC 4-33-12-9 - Provides that the Dearborn County council may vote to direct the county auditor to distribute 25% of the admissions and supplemental wagering taxes that are distributed to Dearborn County to cities and towns in the county where a riverboat is not located. Provides for the taxes to be distributed using a ratio. Sets forth how a city or town in Dearborn County may use the admissions and supplemental wagering taxes that are distributed.

PUBLIC LAW 116-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1253 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – VOTOR LIST MAINTENANCE - Amends IC 3-6-5-13; IC 3-7-33-8; IC 3-7-38.2-5; - Adds a requirement that the circuit court clerk permanently retain the minutes of all meetings of the county election board. Requires the county voter registration office to scan a paper document that creates, amends, or cancels an individual's voter registration record and attach the scanned image to the voter's file in the computerized list. Codifies current administrative procedures ("confidence factors") used by the Indiana election division to determine which potentially duplicate voter registration records to provide to county voter registration offices to assist the county in determining whether a voter of the county has registered more recently in another state. Requires the county voter registration office to retain a voter's paper registration records associated with the address at which the voter is registered to vote until all of the following are satisfied: (1) The voter's registration at the address stated in the voter's registration application has been cancelled. (2) The general election immediately following the cancellation of the voter's registration has occurred. (3) Twenty-four months have elapsed following the general election.

PUBLIC LAW 117-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1262 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – PUBLIC FUNDS AND TAX REFUND INTERCEPTS - Amends IC 5-13-9-4; IC 5-13-9-5; IC 5-13-9-11; IC 6-8.1-9-14; IC 6-8.1-9.5 - Provides that certain restrictions requiring deposits of public funds to be made within the territorial limits of a political subdivision apply to funds invested in: (1) transaction accounts; and (2) certificates of deposit in a depository designated by the state board of finance but not by the local board of finance. Provides that an ordinance or resolution authorizing funds to be invested in such certificates of deposit expires not later than one year (rather than two years, under current law) after the ordinance or resolution is adopted. Revises the procedures involved when a political subdivision seeks a set off of a tax refund from the department of state revenue for debts owed to the political subdivision by a debtor. Repeals a provision pertaining to hearings with debtors on disputed debts that are owed to political subdivisions that use the tax refund set off process.

PUBLIC LAW 125-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 347 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – BONDING PROCEDURES - Amends IC 5-1-11-1; IC 5-1-11-2; IC 14-27-6-4; IC 36-3-5-8; IC 36-7-18-31; IC 36-10-3-24; IC 36-10-8-16; IC 36-10-9-15 - Permits the following political subdivisions to sell bonds at a negotiated sale after June 30, 2018, and before July 1, 2021: (1) A consolidated city. (2) A second class city. (3) A school corporation located in a consolidated city or a second class city. (Current law requires a public sale of bonds.) Provides that this change does not apply to refinancing bonds and some revenue bonds that are dedicated to a limited purpose. Makes technical corrections.

PUBLIC LAW 138-2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1089 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – ST. JOSEPH RIVER BASIN COMMISSION - Amends IC 4-8-2; IC 4-30-3; - Amends the law concerning the St. Joseph River basin commission (commission). Provides that the commission includes the county surveyor of each participating county and a representative of each soil and water conservation district that includes territory in a county participating in the commission and territory in the river basin. Eliminates from the commission the member of a soil and water conservation district appointed by the governor. Repeals the commission's statutory quorum requirement. Authorizes a political subdivision in a participating county to enter into a cooperative agreement with the commission and at least one other legal entity to authorize the commission to develop a plan to improve water quality or mitigate flooding. Requires the commission to schedule a public meeting concerning such a plan in each participating county containing a political subdivision that entered into the cooperative agreement with the commission for the development of the plan. Requires the commission, at least 10 days before a meeting concerning a proposed plan, to post a copy of the plan on the Internet and publish a meeting notice containing certain information. Requires the commission, in developing a plan, to determine the best method and manner of improving water quality or mitigating flooding, in view of certain considerations. Requires that a plan be approved by the state before it is implemented. Authorizes the commission to: (1) develop plans and tools to mitigate flooding; (2) employ staff; (3) enter into contracts; (4) exercise the powers of a political subdivision specified in a cooperative agreement; (5) require that increased water runoff resulting from new construction be impounded on the construction site, but waive the impoundment requirement upon payment of a reasonable fee; (6) acquire conservation easements and acquire and remove improvements within the 100 year flood plains of the river basin; and (7) adopt rules restricting construction within the 100 year flood plains of the river basin. Provides that the commission, the commission's executive board, or employees or authorized representatives of the commission may enter land within the 100 year flood plain of any watercourse in the river basin to investigate suspected violations of the flood control laws. Requires written notice to an owner of the affected land 21 days before an entry on the land, and requires the commission to hold a hearing on the necessity of the entry if an owner of the affected land appeals to the commission.

PUBLIC LAW 139-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1155 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – SUBDIVISION DRAIN REPAIR PILOT PROGRAM –Amends IC 32-25.5-3-4 and adds IC 36-9-27.8 - Creates a pilot program for Indianapolis (excluding Lawrence, Speedway, Beech Grove, and Southport) and Johnson County (not including incorporated areas) regarding subdivision drain repairs. Authorizes the executive of a county or a consolidated city (unit) to enter into a contract with a subdivision homeowners association providing: (1) for the unit to repair subdivision drains located in the subdivision; and (2) for owners of property in the subdivision to pay assessments to fund the repairs; if a majority of the members of the homeowners association approve the contract. Provides that a contract between the unit and the homeowners association must be executed not later than June 30, 2021. Requires notice to or written consent of the owner of the property before an employee of the unit or contractor, or the county surveyor, may enter onto the property to perform repair work. Provides for the creation of a subdivision drain repair fund with a separate account for each participating subdivision into which the assessments paid by the owners of property in the subdivision are deposited. Requires the assessments imposed on a subdivision's homeowners to be set by the executive at an amount not greater than reasonably necessary to meet the cost of repairing the subdivision's drains and that the charge for a homeowner's assessment may appear on the homeowner's semiannual property tax statement. Provides that unpaid assessments may be collected in the manner in which other unpaid special assessments are collected.

PUBLIC LAW 147-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1311 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – MOTOR VEHICLE MATTERS - amends 9-22-3-15 - Allows a police officer to charge a fee for title and vehicle identification number (VIN) inspections in certain instances. Specifies that a fee related to a title or VIN inspection performed by a police officer may not exceed \$5. Specifies that revenue generated by a fee related to a police officer's inspection of a title or VIN must be deposited in: (1) a special vehicle inspection fund; or (2) a local law enforcement continuing education fund.

PUBLIC LAW 150-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1406 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES - amends 31-16-9-1; IC 31-16-21-1 and IC 31-25-4-17.5 - Provides for the collection of certain past due annual support fees by the child support bureau (bureau) and the clerk of the circuit court. Allows the bureau to collect child support payments made in cash. Allows the bureau and the clerk of the circuit court to recoup certain child support overpayments. Specifies the duties of a licensing authority when imposing sanctions and penalties against a licensee or permit holder with a child support delinquency who is the subject of an order issued by the bureau. Repeals a requirement that an individual determined to be eligible for unemployment compensation self-disclose a child support obligation. Provides that the department of child services may: (1) initiate an action to determine paternity for a child who is the subject of a child in need of services proceeding; or (2) refer the case to the local prosecuting attorney's office to file a paternity action. Urges the legislative council to assign for study to an appropriate interim study committee the task of studying topics related to: (1) the adequacy of the statewide computer system used by the department of child services to monitor receipt and disbursement of child support payments; and (2) the estimated cost to update or replace the statewide computer system.

PUBLIC LAW 156-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 126 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019 – JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES - amends 33-33-39-1 - Allows the judges of the Jefferson County circuit and superior courts to jointly appoint a magistrate to serve the Jefferson County courts. Adds a fourth judge to the superior court of Kosciusko County. Allows the judges of the Putnam circuit and superior courts to jointly appoint a magistrate to serve the Putnam County courts. Allows the judges of the Scott County circuit and superior courts to jointly appoint a magistrate to serve the Scott County courts.

PUBLIC LAW 159-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 197 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – VARIOUS PROPERTY ISSUES - amends IC 25-21.5-9; IC 32-19-2-2; IC 32-19-3-1; IC 36-2-2-10; IC 36-2-12-14; and adds IC 36-8-3-22 - Provides that town police reserve officers are eligible for a line of duty death benefit from the special death benefit fund. Adds town police reserve officers to the tuition and fee exemption for the children and surviving spouse of a public safety officer killed in the line of duty. Provides that: (1) after December 31, 2017, a county, city, or town shall furnish without charge to a police reserve officer (officer) who is injured or contracts an illness in the course of or as the result of the performance of duties as an officer all necessary physician, surgical, hospital, and nursing services and supplies, and that this obligation supersedes any obligations that another medical insurance carrier has to pay the officer's medical expenses; (2) after December 31, 2017, a county, city, or town shall provide to an officer who is unable to pursue the officer's usual vocation as the result of an injury or illness occurring in the course of or as the result of the performance of duties as an officer a weekly amount equal to the Indiana minimum wage computed on the basis of a 40 hour work week for a maximum of 260 weeks; and (3) a county, city, or town may meet its obligations by purchasing policies of group insurance, establishing a plan of self-insurance, or participating in the medical treatment and burial expense provisions of the worker's compensation and occupational diseases laws.

PUBLIC LAW 161-2018 – SENATE ENROLLED ACT 238 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – OFFICE OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION - amends IC 33-37-5-15; - Changes all references to the division of state court administration and the judicial center to the office of judicial administration. Changes all references to the executive director of the division of state court administration and the judicial center to chief administrative officer of the office of judicial administration. Makes various changes to laws governing courts and court officers, including laws concerning evening court sessions, magistrate judges, senior judges, specialized driving privileges, the collection of certain clerk fees, (Service of Process) the administration of the public defense fund, temporary guardianships, and judicial conference membership. Repeals the law describing the division of state court administration. Repeals the law setting forth the duties of the division of supreme court administration. Repeals the law requiring the judicial center to maintain a roster of in-state facilities to provide child services in a residential setting. Makes technical corrections. Makes conforming changes.

PUBLIC LAW 163-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 247 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 –CREDITOR'S RIGHTS - amends IC 12-15-9; IC 29-1; IC 30-4; IC32-17; and IC 32-39 - Makes various changes to probate and trust law relating to creditors' claims, claims against nonprobate transferees, and no contest provisions in wills and trusts. Defines "no contest provision". Provides that a no contest provision is enforceable, except under certain circumstances. Provides that the estate recovery unit of the office of Medicaid policy and planning is a reasonably ascertainable creditor if the decedent was at least 55 years of age at the time of death. Extends the time period for county clerks to issue letters testamentary or of administration from five months to seven months. Allows for the deduction of liens, encumbrances, and reasonable funeral expenses from the estate value for purposes of determining whether the estate assets are worth more or less than the threshold value of \$50,000. Provides an exception for a county clerk's delay in issuing letters testamentary or letters of administration that is not caused by the fault of the petitioner. Makes conforming changes.

PUBLIC LAW 171-2018 - SENATE ENROLLED ACT 392 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 –LOCAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS - Amends IC 5-14-1.5-5; IC 5-14-3-3; IC 5-14-3-8; AND IC 6-1.1-4-14.1 - Establishes a process to: (1) divide and transfer land that is owned by a county, city, or town; and (2) assess the value of land that a county, city, or town owns that the county, city, or town has divided and transferred to an adjacent property owner. Provides that, in a tax sale, a county executive may include any costs directly attributable to the county in the price for the sale of a certificate of sale. Amends the law exempting a county executive or a town legislative body from giving notice of a meeting if the meeting concerns routine administrative functions. Provides that if a public record is in an electronic format, a state or local government agency (excluding the office of the county recorder) shall provide an electronic copy or a paper copy of the public record, at the option of the person making the request for the public record. Prohibits, with certain exceptions, a state or local government agency from charging a fee for providing a public record by electronic mail. Makes conforming changes.

PUBLIC LAW 175-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1056 EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – INNKEEPERS; TAXES - Amends IC 6-9-29-3; IC 6-9-23-5; IC 6-9-31-2 - Provides that a member appointed to a convention and tourism commission under the uniform innkeeper's tax statute who is required to be: (1) engaged in a convention, visitor, or tourism business; or (2) involved in or promoting conventions, visitors, or tourism; need not be a resident of the county if the member is an owner or an executive level employee of a convention, visitor, or tourism business that is located within the county. Provides that such a member must be a resident of Indiana. Repeals the requirement in the uniform innkeeper's tax statute that not more than a simple majority of the members of a convention and tourism commission may be affiliated with the same political party. Requires the department of state revenue (department) to provide each commission with summary data of the amount of the innkeeper's tax collections to the county. Provides that, in the case of a county that has adopted an ordinance requiring the payment of the innkeeper's tax to the county treasurer instead of the department: (1) the county treasurer is required to annually report to the department the amount of innkeeper's tax collected in the county in the preceding calendar year; and (2) the department is required to provide summary data of the total amount of the county's innkeeper's tax collected in the preceding calendar year to the commission established for that county. Makes conforming changes.

PUBLIC LAW 181-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1233 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT MATTERS - Amends IC 13-21-3-1 - Provides that, after a solid waste management district (SWMD) is dissolved, an employee of the SWMD who is also a member of the county executive, county legislative body, or county fiscal body: (1) may continue to hold the employee's elected office; (2) is neither required to resign nor considered to have resigned as a county employee; and (3) may not cast a vote on any matter concerning solid waste management as a member of the county executive, legislative body, or fiscal body

PUBLIC LAW 183-2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1256 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 VARIOUS LOCAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS – Adds IC 36-1-14-5 - Provides that a county that sells a county hospital before January 1, 2017, may establish a charitable nonprofit foundation (foundation) to hold some or all of the proceeds of the sale of the county hospital in trust for the benefit of the county, by the council and the county executive adopting substantially similar ordinances to establish the foundation after June 30, 2018. Provides that the ordinances do not supersede or replace any previously adopted ordinance or agreement effectuating: (1) monetary disbursements; and (2) distributions from the previously executed asset purchase agreement to an Indiana nonprofit corporation. Provides the details for the operation of the foundation and use of the trust funds. Provides that another unit in the same county may enter into an interlocal agreement with the county council, the county executive, and the board to invest funds obtained by the unit from the sale of a capital asset into the foundation. Establishes requirements for the contents of the interlocal agreement. Provides that the department of local government finance (DLGF) may not reduce the actual or maximum permissible property tax levy of a unit that enters into an interlocal agreement on account of money transferred into or expended from the foundation. Permits the county to: (1) use money from the principal amount of the donation as a pledge of money to bonds, leases, or other obligations; and (2) pay bonds issued by the county. Specifies that the DLGF may not reduce a county's maximum or actual permissible property tax levy on account of money deposited into or expended from a foundation. Makes changes to certain statutes regarding redevelopment commissions.

PUBLIC LAW 184-2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1263 – EFFECTIVE MARCH 21, 2018 COUNTY JAIL ISSUES - Amends IC 6-3.6-3-1; IC 3-3.6-6-2.7; IC 3-3.6-6-3 - Provides that a county fiscal body may adopt an ordinance to impose (within the local income tax expenditure rate) a tax rate for correctional facilities and rehabilitation facilities in the county. Specifies that the tax rate must be in increments of 0.01% and may not exceed 0.2%. Provides that the tax rate may not be in effect for more than 20 years. Specifies that the revenue generated by such a tax rate: (1) must be distributed directly to the county before the remainder of the expenditure rate revenue is distributed; and (2) shall be maintained in a separate dedicated county fund and used by the county only for paying for correctional facilities and rehabilitation facilities in the county.

PUBLIC LAW 185-2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1290 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018

TRANSPORTATION FINANCE – Amends IC 8-14-1-1 and IC 8-14-1-4 Provides that for funds distributed to counties, cities, and towns from the motor vehicle highway account, each county, city, or town must use at least 50% of the money for the construction, reconstruction, and preservation of the unit's highways. (Under current law, at least 50% must be used for construction, reconstruction, and maintenance.) Makes various changes to the accounting system for local roads and streets

PUBLIC LAW 187-2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1320 EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 – DISPOSITION OF TAX SALE SURPLUS – Amends IC 6-1.1-23.9-1; IC 6-1.1-25-2; - Amends the definition of "substantial property interest of public record" for purposes of the tax sale statutes to specify that: (1) the term means title to or interest in a tract that is within the tract's chain of record title and either recorded or properly indexed in the county in which the tract is located; and (2) chain of record title includes instruments executed by the owner and recorded within the five day period before the date the owner acquires title to the tract. Eliminates the requirement that a person that redeems property sold in a tax sale must pay an amount equal to the amount deposited in the tax surplus fund at the time of the tax sale. Continues current law requiring the redeeming party to pay 5% interest on that money. Requires that a conveyance recorded after June 30, 2007, must include a statement specifying the mailing address for tax statement purposes and the mailing address of the grantee. Requires that the mailing address of the grantee be a street address or a rural route address.

PUBLIC LAW 188-2018 – HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1323 EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019 HEAVY EQUIPMENT RENTAL EXCISE TAX – Amends IC 6-1.1-2-7 and adds IC 6-6-15 - Excludes heavy rental equipment from the assessment of the personal property tax. Imposes an excise tax on the rental of heavy rental equipment (excise tax). Provides procedures for the sourcing, collection, and distribution of the excise tax.

Provides that the excise tax is apportioned and distributed to local governmental units (units) in the same manner that property taxes are apportioned and distributed. Provides that the excise taxes distributed to the units before January 1, 2020, must be deposited in the unit's excess levy fund. Provides that after December 31, 2019, excise taxes distributed to the units must be allocated among the unit's funds in the same proportion that the unit's property tax collections are allocated among those funds.

PUBLIC LAW 207-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1278 – EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS – Amends IC 36-7-22-4; IC 36-7-22; - Provides that a petition to establish an economic improvement district (district) may be filed with the clerk (in the case of a municipality) or the county auditor (in the case of the county). Requires a person that intends to file a petition for the establishment of a district to first provide the clerk or county auditor with written notice of the person's intent before initiating the petition process. Provides that a petition for the establishment of a district may be filed with the clerk or county auditor not later than 120 days after the date on which the person filed the notice of intent. Requires the clerk or county auditor to retain the paper copy of a petition for not less than 90 days from the date the petition is filed. Provides that the clerk or county auditor shall publish notice of a hearing on the proposed district, mail a copy of the notice to each owner of real property within the district, and include the hearing date in the notice. Provides that the date of the hearing may not be more than 60 days after the date on which the notice is mailed. Increases the required percentage number of signatures needed on a petition from owners of real property within a proposed district. Specifies that the signature of a person whose property is: (1) owned by this state, or a state agency, or leased to a state agency and is exempt from property taxation; or (2) owned by a political subdivision of this state and is exempt from property taxation; may not be considered in determining whether the required number of signatures needed on a petition are met. Provides that the assessed valuation of property that is: (1) owned by this state, or a state agency, or leased to a state agency and is exempt from property taxation; or (2) owned by a political subdivision of this state and is exempt from property taxation; may not be considered in determining the total assessed valuation in the proposed district. Repeals the provision that allows the proposals contained in the petition to be amended or modified in the ordinance adopted to establish the district. Eliminates the provision that allows the board of a district (board) to increase a special assessment following a hearing on an owner's protest of the special assessment. Requires the board to either confirm or decrease the special assessment in its determination of the owner's protest. Provides that the legislative body of a unit (legislative body) may not pass an amending ordinance to increase the boundaries of a district. Requires the district (or the person that files the petition, if the proposed district is rejected) to, at the request of the unit, reimburse the unit for the reasonable expenses incurred by the unit to comply with the statutory requirements for the district. Provides that the legislative body may choose not to collect all or part of the reasonable expenses.

PUBLIC LAW 210-2018 - HOUSE ENROLLED ACT 1383 – EFFECTIVE MARCH 25, 2018**VARIOUS ELECTION LAW MATTERS** – Amends IC 3-6-5.2-10; IC 3-11.5-4; 3-11.5-6; IC 3-12-3.5 –

Eliminates the small precinct committee. Requires, not later than July 1, 2018, that the election commission adopt an order consolidating precincts in Lake County having fewer than 600 active voters, if the consolidation will realize savings for the county and not impose unreasonable obstacles on the ability of the voters of the county to vote at the polls. Provides that, if the commission does not adopt an order, the secretary of state, not later than August 1, 2018, and not later than July 1 each year immediately following a presidential election, shall issue the order. Requires absentee ballot counters at a central counting location in a county having a consolidated city that uses electronic poll books or that is a vote center county, at any time after 6 a.m. on election day and after the absentee ballots are processed and the electronic poll books updated, to count the absentee ballots. Allows any other county to use this procedure if the board unanimously adopts a resolution to do so. Allows the signature review process to be conducted any time after an absentee ballot is received in a county having a consolidated city or in any other county in which the board unanimously adopts a resolution to do so. Allows, but does not require, absentee ballot counters at a central location in those counties to make findings concerning an absentee voter's signature and that the voter is a qualified voter of the precinct for an absentee ballot cast in person. Requires absentee ballot counters at a central location in a county having a consolidated city to continue to count without interruption until all absentee ballots that are not required to be remade and have been accepted by the counters are canvassed and the certificates of vote count are prepared and delivered. Allows absentee ballots counted at a central location in a county having a consolidated city to be stored in the order in which the absentee ballots were counted and not in order by precinct. Provides for the reconciliation of the number of votes cast with the number of voters who have received a ballot in a precinct or vote center using an electronic voting system. Authorizes the county election board or the secretary of state to order an audit in precincts or vote centers under certain circumstances. Requires the secretary of state to publish a report after each election in which an audit is conducted stating the results of each audit.

PUBLIC LAW 212-2018(ss) – EFFECTIVE 7-1-18 – Adds IC 36-7-25-8 – Provides each redevelopment commission shall annually present information to the governing bodies of all the taxing units that have territory within an allocation area of the redevelopment commission. The governing body of a taxing unit that has territory within an allocation area of the redevelopment commission may request that a member of the redevelopment commission appear before the governing body at a public meeting of the governing body.